

Vacancy Circular

Subject:- Selection for the posts of Judicial Members in the Armed Forces Tribunal

- 1) **Tribunal:** The Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT) was constituted under the Armed Forces Tribunal Act, 2007 for adjudication or trial of disputes and complaints with respect to commission, appointments, enrolments, and conditions of service in respect of Defence persons subject to Army Act, 1950; the Navy Act, 1957 and the Air Force Act 1950 and also provides for appeals arising out of orders, findings or sentences of court-martial held under the said Acts and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The Principal Bench of AFT is situated at New Delhi and ten Regional Benches are situated at Chandigarh, Lucknow, Jaipur, Kolkata, Guwahati, Mumbai, Kochi, Chennai, Srinagar (presently functioning at Jammu) & Jabalpur. **A Member upon selection, may be posted at any of these places.**
- 2) **Vacancy:** Applications are being invited for a total of **08** vacancies for the post of **Judicial Members** at Benches in Lucknow (02), Delhi (01), Jabalpur (01), Kolkata (01), Guwahati (01), Chennai (01) and Srinagar (functioning at Jammu) (01). **However, it is stated that a Member upon selection, may be posted at any of these places by giving their choices in order of priority or any of the AFT Benches irrespective of the preference given at S.No.17 of Annexure-I (Proforma).**
- 3) **Qualifications:** The qualifications, eligibility, salary and other terms and conditions of the appointment of a candidate will be governed by the provisions of the Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021 and the Tribunal (Conditions of Service) Rules, 2021.
 - (a) As per sub rule 14 of Rule 3 of the Tribunal (Conditions of Service) Rules, 2021: A person shall not be eligible for appointment as Judicial Member, unless he is: is, or has been, a Judge of a High Court; **or** has for ten years, been an advocate with substantial in litigation in service matters in Central Administrative Tribunal, Armed Forces Tribunal, High Court or Supreme Court.
 - (b) As per Section-5 of Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021: The Member of a Tribunal shall hold office for a term of four years or till he attains the age of sixty-seven years, whichever is earlier.
 - (c) As per Section-3 of Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021, a person who has not completed the age of fifty years shall not be eligible for appointment as Member.
 - (d) As per Rules 10 & 11 of the Tribunal (Conditions of Service) Rules, 2021, "The Member shall be paid a salary of rupees two lakh twenty-five thousand per month plus other allowances as admissible."

[**Note:** Candidates may refer the Tribunals Reforms Act, 2021 and the Tribunal (conditions of Service) Rules, 2021 for other terms & conditions]

4) **Procedure for selection:** The Search-cum-Selection-Committee (SCSC) constituted for recommending the names for appointment to the said posts shall scrutinize the applications received in response to the circular, against the qualifications and may shortlist the number of eligible candidates for personal interaction as it may deem fit. The Committee shall make its recommendations based on the overall assessment of eligible candidates including assessment through the personal interaction after taking into account the suitability, record of past performance, integrity as well as adjudicatory experience keeping in view the requirements of the Tribunal and shall recommend a panel of two names for every post for which selection is being done in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

5) **Selection for re-appointment:** The Member of Armed Forces Tribunal shall be eligible for re-appointment in the same manner as that for the original appointment, preferably, along with all the persons shortlisted in response to the vacancy circular or otherwise under the Tribunal Reforms Act, 2021. While making its assessment for suitability to a post, the Committee shall give additional weightage to the persons seeking re-appointment for their experience in the Tribunal and while doing so, shall take into account, the performance of the person while working as a Member in the Tribunal.

6) **Application Procedure:** Applications of eligible and willing candidates are requested through proper channel (wherever applicable) and are accompanied with

- (i) Bio-data in the proforma at Annexure-I
- (ii) Certificate to be furnished by the employer/head of office/ forwarding authority as in Annexure-II (wherever applicable).
- (iii) Clear photocopies of update CR/APAR of the Officer of at least last five years duly attested by a Group-A officer (wherever applicable).
- (iv) Cadre Clearance (wherever applicable).
- (v) Integrity Certificate/ Clearance from vigilance & disciplinary angle as in Annex-III (wherever applicable).
- (vi) Statement giving details of major or minor penalties, if any, imposed on the officer during the last ten years (wherever applicable).

The above documents should reach this office latest by **03.11.2023** at the following address:

**Under Secretary (AFT Cell),
Room No.308-A, B-Wing, Sena Bhawan,
Ministry of Defence, New Delhi-110011**

7) No TA/DA will be admissible to the candidates to be called for in case of interview/interaction. The candidates are required to make their own arrangements.

8) Advertisement and prescribed application form can be downloaded from website of Ministry of Defence viz. "www.mod.gov.in" and website of AFT viz. "www.aftdelhi.nic.in".

9) Any application received after the due date, or without necessary Annexures as mentioned above will not be entertained. This Department will not be responsible for the postal delays/loss of application, for reasons whatsoever.